House Bill 1398

By: Representatives Marin of the 96th and Talton of the 145th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1   To amend Part 1 of Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia

2   Annotated, relating to general provisions for criminal trespass and damage to property, so

3   as to change provisions relating to criminal damage to property in the first degree; to increase

4   certain penalties; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other

5   purposes.

6   BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7   **SECTION 1.**

8   Part 1 of Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,

9   relating to general provisions for criminal trespass and damage to property, is amended by

10 revising Code Section 16-7-22, relating to criminal damage to property in the first degree,

11 as follows:

12   "16-7-22.

13   (a) A person commits the offense of criminal damage to property in the first degree when

14   he or she:

15   (1) Knowingly and without authority interferes with any property in a manner so as to

16   endanger human life; or

17   (2) Knowingly and without authority and by force or violence interferes with the

18   operation of any system of public communication, public transportation, sewerage,

19   drainage, water supply, gas, power, or other public utility service or with any constituent

20   property thereof.

21   (b) A person convicted of the offense of criminal damage to property in the first degree

22   in violation of paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of this Code section shall be punished by

23   imprisonment for not less than two nor more than 15 years. A person convicted of the

24   offense of criminal damage to property in the first degree in violation of paragraph (2) of

25   subsection (a) of this Code section shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one

26   nor more than ten years."

1   **SECTION 2.**

2   All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.